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# PERSHING'S MEN OFFERED FRANCE

# Monchel Is Captured By French Troops

Enveloping Movement Brings Foe In 12 Miles of Amiens

## 70,000 PRISONERS AND 1,100 GUNS CAPTURED BERLIN REPORT CLAIMS

London Latest War Office Announcement Tells of Heavy Fighting South of the Somme.

Admits Army Being Pressed Back to Line Entailing Engagement of More West of Hamel, Marcelcave and Demum.

Berlin, March 29. — (Via London.) — Since the beginning of the great battle now in progress the German forces have taken 70,000 prisoners and 1,100 guns, says today's army headquarters report.

#### LONDON STATEMENT.

London, March 29.—Heavy fighting has taken place south of the Somme, in which the British have been pressed back to a line run- for the allies the battle is about to bening west of Hamel, Marcelcave and Demum, says this evening's war office announcement.

# DRIVEN BACK AT MANY PLACES

French Army Report Declares Enemy Effort Appears to Have Exhausted Itself.

With the French Army in France. March 28 .- (By the Associated Press.)-The great German effort appears to have exhausted itself. At many places along the front of attack the enemy is being driven back and at others the French and British are offering resistance. Infantry fighting has begun to give place to artillery battles and in the next few days the guns may be expected to speak loudly. In this respect, the British and French have the advantage, inasmuch as the Germans have been unable to drag much artillery with them. They are engaged in establishing themselves in the positions to which they have advanced but have not had time thoroughly to organize their defenses.

The main portion of today's fighting was round the northern sector of the battlefield, where both the French and the British had a successful day, counter-attacking with great vigor where the Germans threatened to push most deeply into their lines. At present, the front is most uneven. During the first rush the Germans succeeded at some places in indenting the fines so that here and there were formed pockets which sooner or later must be straight

Further details concerning the first part of the baltle show that no fewer than thirty-eight German divisions were thrown simultaneously against a front held by only eight British divisions, overwhelming them and forcing them back. Behind these British divi-sions were only three others in reserve, but the troops fought valiantly and delayed the German advance for a considerable time,

Since then about forty-nine further German divisions have been hurled into the battle (a total of eighty-seven divisions, or, at the present estimated strength of the German division, about

000,000 men). Not only the army of the Bayarian crown prince, but also that of the Ger-man crown prince, is now engaged. The German generals immediately commanding the troops from the north to the south of the front attacked are Von Below, Von Marwitz and Von Hutier. The army of Gen. Von Hutler faces the French along the Oise. It is very quiet today, after the bloody defeat of its attempt to cross the river. Most of the bridges have now been

The fighting has been much more severe in the sectors of Von Below and Von Marwitz. It is evident the albest are gaining the upper hand and mas-tering the enemy with artillery. Owing to the terrible casquities among his aviators the enemy is commasses. When it is remembered that the enemy has more than a division for every thousand of the front on which he attacked, an idea may be gained of the difficulties with which the allies have been beset.

At one point on the Crozat canal, where the Germans eventually gained a crossing, they made sixteen different attacks one day. Finally, the British corps which was holding the posi-tion, fell back, absolute'v exhausted, and the Germans crossed over a bridge of piled up bodies of their comrades, The German advance has been more rapid at some points and the allies have scarcely had time to get away

their cannon as no horses were near. One French battery of 75's was dragged five miles with ropes by the gunners, who succeeded in saving it.

A German prisoner who was interrogated today said the German troops were greatly

reatly surprised at the amall of British dead found on the battlefield. They had been told the British in front of them had been annihilated. It was evident small groups had fought gamely to the last, giving the Germans the impression that large the southeast, which will prevent the forces were facing them.

the fighting troops and strip all cloth-lover the ground they have acquired. It ing from the dead. The bodies, he may now be said that the French said, were buried without any covering, and the clothing thus obtained sition and the numerical superiority was served out again. Reports from which the Germans enjoyed in their other parts of the front seem to indiother parts of the front seem to indi-cate that elsewhere the line is being held by mediocre divisions brought the Russian front, the best troops having been withdrawn to participate in the battle. Every one the divisions which has been identified since the offensive began had been already classified as effective. Among them are three of the famous guard divisions and some of Bavarians,

Whether the Germans will hurl nore divisions into the furnace is, of unknown. It is considered course, unknown. It is considered Killed in action, 1; killed in accident, possible they still have approximately 2; died of wounds, 2; died from disforty divisions which may be used to forty divisions which may be used to eases, 5; died from other caurs, 1; replace those that have suffered the wounded severely, 1; wounded slightmost heavily in the recent offensive.

### No Word From Pershing As to Proffer of Army

Washington, March 29.—Late today the war department still was without word from Gen. Pershing about the placing of the American army in France at the disposal of the French chief-of-staff. Maj. Gen. March, acting chief of staff, said, however, that was not surprising as cable lines were congested and only messages of the utmost urgency took prece-dence over press dispatches.

"If Gen. Pershing has called on the French chief of staff, for that is the position Gen. Foch holds there, and put the American army at his desposal as reported in press dispatches, Gen. Pershing

has not notified us" "Our last dispatch from either Gen. Pershing or Gen. Bliss on the battle situation led us up to the French counter attack yes-terday. That was one of the most accouraging things in the battle that German army driving through there and being struck and hurled back three miles by the brilliant French attack is inspiring."

### FIGHTING ONLY **ABOUT TO BEGIN** FOR ALLIED ARMY

Feeling General That for Germany Conflict Has Been Virtually Lost.

BATTLE LINE IS EXTENDED

Enemy Reserves.

Loss of Amiens Would Not Be Vital-To Shape Course of Events.

Paris, March 29.—The great battle is now raging over a front of more than seventy miles. This extension of the line has increased the number of German reserves engaged. Although thus far no decisive success has been obtained anywhere there is increased confidence here. The impression in semiofficial circles is that the allies have not only held off the Germans, but now are no longer compelled to permit the enemy by his maneuvres to shape the course which the battle shall take.

The general feeling is that for Germany the battle is virtually lost, that for the allies the battle is about to be-Paris, March 29 .- The great bat-

The operations thus far are accepted as confirming the theory that Paris was not the main objective of the German offensive, but that the plan of the enemy was to break connection between the French and British armies, in which he has falled. His main direct attack was westward toward th The Germans seek Amiens because this town is an important railway center of communication with England, The loss of Amiens would be inconvenient but not vital.

Improving Rapidly. Marcel Sembat, former minister of

public works in L'Heure, writes: "The situation is improving for us and improving rapidly. The German attack in the Montdidier is likely to prove a formidable faflure. Towards Amiens, which is the real objective of the Germans, the attacks are meeting with a stubborn defense. They must have Amiens to cut off the British. They must reach the sea to attempt an enveloping movement. Nothing will be spared to defend Amiens to the last." The eighth day of the battle brought

a change in the weather, if conditions at the front are th esame as in Paris. The wind shifted from the northwest to Germans from using gas. Rain is fall-The same prisoner said the Germans from using gas. Rain is fall-mans had formed a special corps, whose duties were to advance behind Germans to bring up their artillery

### THIRTY-TWO NAMES ON **NEWEST CASUALTY LIST**

Washington, March 29.-Thirty-two ames were contained in today's casuality list issued by the war depart-It was divided as follows:

ly, 20.

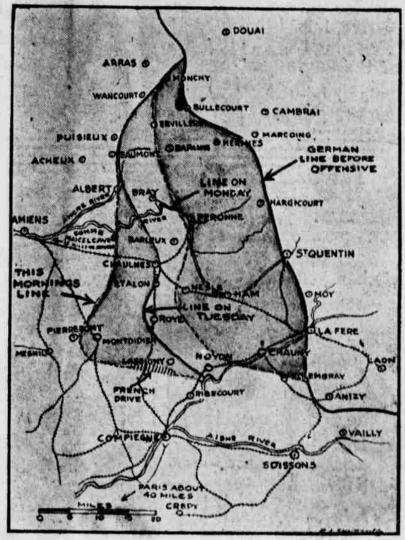
The names of nine officers appear on the list. Capt. Ira G. Penberthy, died from an accident, and Second Lieut, Louis H. Lathrop, died of tu-berculosis. The slightly wounded includes Maj. A. Rasmussen, Capt. Albert Florian, First Lieut. Chas. C. Crouse, First Lieut. Howard H. Havron, First Lieut. Clarence R. Huebner, First Lieut, John B. Nutt, First Lieut, Wm. F. Rigney. Killed 'in Action—Private Dell Al-

Died of Accident-Capt, Ira G. Penberthy, Private Ben Pryor, Died of Disease—Second Lleut, Louis H. Lathrop, Sergt, John J. Connolly, Privates Perry Dodd, Paul Rich-ard Hecht, Raymond F. Solomon. Died of Wounds-Corpl, Albert W. Williams, Private Thomas P. Min-

Digit of Other Causes-Cook Henry Wounded Severely-Private Wm. J.

Wounded Slightly-Maj. A. Rhs. nussen; Capt. Albert Florian; First. Jeuf. Chas. C. Crouse, Howard T. Havron, Chrence R. Heubner, John P. Nutt. Wm. F. Rigney, Sergt. Maj. Harvey M. Crowe, Sergt. Albert So-renson and Corpl. Boy Taylor. Privates-Logan Brouss, George E. Garrison, Francis Sigby, Wm. H. Kenhart, Wayne Perry, Wm. Potts, Patrick J. Stanton, Leonard M. Srew. Frank A. Uffelman and Char, E.

### TODAY'S SITUATION IN FRANCE



No material change has been made in the war situation today, except the German advance is perilously close to Amiens, which is the principal railway point between Calais, Boulogne and Paris. Other parts of the line held by British and French have been maintained and the French have retaken several towns. The map indicates approximately the change in the past two days and in previous periods.

### **ANGLO-FRENCH** TROOPS HOLD UP **GERMAN THRUST**

North of Montdidier-Monchel Captured—Losses Boches Extremely Heavy.

Paris, March 29 .- Violent fighting continued last evening and last night in the region of Montdidier, the war office announced today. In spite of German counter attacks the French held on to the villages which they took yes terday in this region.

Monchel was taken by French troops. North of Montdidier French and British troops held up the German thrust. The German losses have been extremely heavy.

The statement follows: "The battle was continued violently

esterday evening and part of the night in the region of Montdidier. Notwithstanding repeated counter attacks the enemy was not able to eject the French from the villages which they captured captured yesterday. The French troops, following up their success, took positions of Monchel after valiant fighting.

has been violent fighting. All the Ger-man attacks against this village broke before the indomitable resistance of the French troops.

"Statements obtained from prisoners confirm reports that the lesses suffered by the Germans, without bringing them success, are extremely heavy. The number of corpses found in the vicinity of Montdidler and near Pleshier-de-Roye also confirms this state

Hold Firm North of Montdidier. "To the north of Montdidier Franco

British troops continue vigorously to hold the Germans on the line along the Avre river and in front of Neuville-Sire-Bernard, Mezieres, Marcelcave and Hamel, "Certain columns of German infarttry and convoys reported on the road

between Laon and La Fere were brought under the fire of our longrange artillery and dispersed.

### Cooler, Says Billy 'Possum.



that's once poor man affairs. must pay and pay such frony that All Fools' day should fellow Easter, But since old Adam was a youth, I think the apring has brought. forsooth, a willing-ness to poy, in truth,

Now Easter comes

### HERO OF MARNE MAY BE IN CHARGE OF **BIG COUNTER DRIVE**



Gen. Foch, hero of the Marne, whose quick blow through the German center with the French "army of maneuver" turned the kaiser's horde back from Paris, is mentioned as the man who may be in charge of the interallied, "army of maneuver" when it strikes back at the Huns.

### "In front of Pleasier-de-Roye there KAISER WANTED TO KNOW EFFECT WILSON'S NOTE

Russians Merely Send Copy of Reply to President's Offer of Assistance in War.

London, March 29 .- An Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Moscow says Germany has addressed a note to the council of Russian national commis sloners asking its attitude towards President Wilson's proposals to assis Russia to continue the war. In reply the commissioners merely sent a of the cablegram dispatched to M. Wilson by the Moscow conference.

In his message to the all-Russian congress Mr. Wilson said that although the United States at present was unable to render the direct aid it would wish to extend, it would avail itself of every opportunity to secure for Russia once more complete sov creighty and independence in her own

### DEATH RESULTS FROM AVIATION ACCIDENT

Lieut Marcus A. Jordan, of the United States army two days after an airplane accident in Italy in which Slong 'bout Easter. he was injured, was reported today in a cablegram to his brother. Ediridge in a cablegram to his brother. Ediridge frost tonight.

## WHOLE RESOURCES U.S. ARMY AT DISPOSAL OF FRENCH COMMANDER

Gen. Pershing Calls on Gen. Foch at Headquarters, Offering Americans for Employment in Struggle Now in Progress.

Brilliant Strategist and Hero of the Marne May Be Placed in Supreme Command on the Western Front.

Paris, March 29. - Gen. Pershing called on Gen. Foch at headquarters yesterday, according to L'Information, and placed at his disposal the whole resources of the American army for employment in the battle now in progress.

There have been several reports recently that Gen. Foch, one of the most brilliant strategists of the day, who was largely responsible for the French victory in the bat-tle of the Marne, would be placed tie of the Marne, would be placed in supreme command on the western front. The Daily Chronicle, of London, yesterday said an announcement bearing on the coordination of British and French military exertions might be expected almost immediately, and assigned to Gen. Foch.

HOLD IT GREAT HONOR.

"I come," L'Information quotes Gen. Pershing as saying, "to say to you that the American people would hold it a great honor for our troops were t ey engaged in the present battle. I ask it of you. in my name, and in that of the American people.

"There is at this moment no other question than that of fighting. nfantry, artillery, aviation - all that we have, are yours to dispose of them as you will. Others are coming which are as numerous as will be necessary. I have come to say to you that the American people would be proud to be engaged in the greatest battle of history."

Gen. Foch placed Gen. Pershing's L'Information says. The council inder-in-Chief Petain and Louis Lou-cheur, minister of munitions.

Appreciation Expressed.

The French press expresses feelingly in appreciation of Pershing's visit to Gen. Foch. day took, in the name of his country, day took, in the name of his country, action which was grand in its simplicity and of moving boauty. In a few words, without adornment, but in which vibrated an accent of chivalrous passion, Gen. Pershing made to France the offer of an entire people. Take all, ac said. 'All is yours.' The honor Pershing claims is shared by us and it is with the sentiment of real pride that our soldiers will greet into their ranks those of the new world their ranks those of the new world who come to them as brothers."

### LONG-RANGE MYSTERY GUN AGAIN BOMBARDING PARIS

Paris, March 29.—The longe-range bombardment of Paris was resumed shortly after 3 o'clock this afternoon.

WILSON CONRGATULATES FOCH ON NEW AUTHORITY

Washington, March 29.—The first official reference to Gen. Foch as being in supreme com-mand of the allied forces on the western front is contained in the cablegram President Wilson has sent the general today congratulating him on "his new author-

The president's message said:

"May I not convey to you my sincere congratulations on your new authority? Such unity of command is a hopeful augury of ultimate success. We are fol-lowing with profound interest the bold and brilliant action of your forces."

London newspapers for several days have intimated that the French commander was to be put in supreme command in the west and that a complete co-ordination of the allied forces was

The appointment of a supreme commander has been under con German offensive apparently has hastened action in this direction. News cables that Gen. Pershing had offered to Gen. Fooh the American troops France were significant in this connection.

### Gen. Leonard Wood Passes Physical Examination

Washington, March 29.—Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood has passed his physical examination for active service at the front and will be estimed to command his division at Caup Functon, Kan.

This became known at the war de-partment tate today, disposing of ru-mors that through the right test to which all general officers who are to take the field in France are subjected. the administration was preparing to shelve Gen. Would senior major action upon his ranks.

Gen. Would case examined years and continued fighting took place unday by a board headed by hers. Cen. Win. H. Asther In. Warneld T. Lotter, with H. Asther In. Warneld T. Lotter, and the evening. Our troops, after mainlaiding their line all day in the face of repeated assaults by superior many forces, have withdrawn perior enemy forces, have withdrawn. tors Mayo, of Rochester, Minn-

### MAINTAIN POSTS ON SOMME; HUNS THROWN BACK

British Successfully Withstand Series Heavy Assaults, Inflicting Losses.

London, March 29 .- On the Somme the British have maintained their positions and gained ground in places by successful counter-attacks, the war office announces.

After holding their line all day in the face of repeated assaults by numerically superior enemy forces, the British retired a short distance from their advanced positions at some points.

The Germans again suffered ex-ceedingly heavy losses. The British took prisoners. The statement follows

"Further strong attacks were made by the enemy yesterday afterpoon and evening at several points along, the troops have maintained their posiplaces by successful counter-attacks. A number of prisoners and machine guns were captured by us in this fight-

"The enemy again suffered exceedingly heavy casualties. His frequent attacks which were pressed with great gained only our outpost lines, after everal hours of severe hand-to-hand fighting. His reserves were then sent ifrward against our battle positions and were everywhere thrown back with great loss. Our machine gut artiflery and rifle fire did great execu-

beart specialist and one of the Duc- a short distance from their advanced